

WINSHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Winsham Annual Parish Meeting was held on Friday, 27th April 1984 in the Jubilee Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present: - There were 32 members of the Parish present and Mr R M Smart, Chairman of the Parish Council, took the Chair.

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held On Friday, 29th April 1983 were read and signed as a true record.

Apologies for absence.

No apologies were received.

Chairman's Report.

The Chairman reported that the Council had had an active year. Meetings had been held on the second Friday of each month, with one exception. The meetings were quite lengthy, lasting until after 10 p.m. on at least one occasion. Two Parish Clerks have been employed during the year, Mrs Elizabeth Osborne had given excellent service for 9 months and has now moved to Yeovil. Mr Harvie took the post in February 1984. Four new Members have been elected to the Council and following the death of Mr Ray Ashman, Mr D Woodward was co-opted. The main expenditure during the year was the purchase of the Cemetery Path on December 15th 1983. After several years of negotiations, the final cost was £820.00. It was necessary to have fencing and a gate erected at a cost of £620.00.

There were 7 Planning Applications, 1 of which was withdrawn.

The subject of the Large Recreation Ground fence had been discussed on several occasions and Mr L Fisher (District Councillor) is at present dealing with the legal aspect of cricket balls landing on private property. The County Surveyor had been approached regarding signs at Court Street and the appropriate signs have been fixed.

With reference to Grass Cutting, it had been suggested that volunteers should be sought for this work and that the Council would provide the machinery. No volunteers were forthcoming so tenders were invited from 3 Contractors. Mr P Powell's tender was accepted. £480.00 for 6 cuts - April - September inclusive.

Financial Report.

The Parish Rate for the year ending 31st March 1984 was 2.3p, which gave a total Precept of £1250.00. Receipts: - Cemetery Fees were £251.00. Payments: - Admin: £333.34p.

Street light in Davies Close £240.00p.

Grass Cutting and Maintenance £1336.30p.

Purchase of Cemetery Path, Fencing and Gate £1440.42p. Bank Balance: - Current Account £91.58p. Deposit Account £315.27p. Petty Cash £4.68p.

Winsham United Charities.

Major Cameron reported that although the income was small, the United Charities had received no requests for help during the year. The Major said that any requests would be welcome and receive sympathetic attention.

Jubilee Hall Report.

In the absence of Miss Harding due to ill health, Major Cameron reported that the running costs of the Hall had been kept within the income. The income from the sale of newsprint, whist drives and the endowment was kept for repairs, amounting to £200 - £300. Extra fire precautions had been installed. At present the Hall has no Caretaker and the position needs to be filled.

Miss Harding will be retiring as Secretary and Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting on May 9th and this post will have to be filled.

Recreation Ground Management Committee Report.

Mrs M Loaring reported that the Committee had had a successful year. There had been extensive damage to the fencing and gate. The boundary fence between the Recreation Ground and Davies Close belonging to the Yeovil District Council is not high enough, but to install a fence of 6 feet high or over would need Planning permission. Letters from the Yeovil District Council make it plain that a higher fence is the responsibility of the users.

District Councillor's Report.

Mr L Fisher said that he had attended most Parish Council Meetings and is pleased to help in any way within his power. Mr R Chick said the Recreation Ground fence was wrong right from the start. Mr Fisher replied that grants were available for fencing but Mrs Loaring said the Sports Club did not own the fence therefore they could not apply. Mr Fisher will obtain the legal aspect for the next meeting. The subject of rubbish at Victory Garage was raised and it was stated that no planning permission had been received for this purpose. Mr Fisher said he would raise the matter with the Planning Committee and the Health Department.

"Best Kept Village" Competition.

Mr Jack Humphrey was invited to speak on this subject and firstly said he thought that an appropriate text was "For the people had a mind to work" He said it was a pity Winsham was not a Member of the Community Council and Somerset was noted for tidy villages. He gave a brief run down of the points required in the Competition, stating the Judges comments were sent to Competitors and wished Winsham luck. The Chairman thanked Mr Humphery for his talk and said he hoped the Villagers would rally round. The judging for the Competition will be in June and Mr Smart said a Committee should be formed, comprising of representatives from local organisations. Also "Street Representatives" should be found. Volunteers so far - Mr E Bannen, Mr D Woodward, Mrs M Loaring and Mr C Slade. A "Best Kept Village" meeting was fixed for Friday, 4th May at 7.30 p.m. It was agreed that the County Council should be contacted regarding getting the Road Sweeper more often and that no weed killer should be used.

Any other business.

Nuclear Free Zone. Mrs Payne said although the Yeovil District Council had declared the District should be a Nuclear Free Zone, Winsham had not and she wanted the voice of Winsham to be heard. Mr Smart invited comments from the floor. There were none. Mr Fisher spoke on the resolution by the Yeovil District Council; he said that Nuclear Power was necessary until something better is found.

